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THE NAVAL OFFICER

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**HOW TO OBTAIN A COMMISSION IN THE
ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY**



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THE NAVAL OFFICER

The Navy offers to a young man a lifetime career of service to Canada. With this service are many benefits, attractions and experiences not normally available in civilian life. In training, officers are given opportunity at all stages to acquire professional and academic knowledge to fit them for increased responsibilities.



The purpose of this pamphlet is to describe the various plans through which a young man may become a commissioned officer in the RCN.

ENTRY PLAN IN THE REGULAR FORCE OF THE RCN

It is possible to obtain a commission in the Royal Canadian Navy by any of these plans:

Regular Officer Training Plan (ROTP).

“Venture” Plan.

University Naval Training Division (UNTD) Training Programme.

Naval Assistance to University Students (NAUS) — for Medical students only.

Transfer from Short Service Appointment to permanent status.

Promotion from Lower Deck.

Transfer from Cadet RCN (R) in Canadian Services Colleges.

Details of these plans will be found in this pamphlet.

TYPES OF COMMISSION

Commissions are granted in the Regular Force either in Permanent Status or on Short Service Appointments. Officers with Permanent Status normally serve in the RCN until retirement age. Officers holding Short Service Appointments undertake a definite period of service, on completion of which they have the right to take their release. It is planned, however, to transfer some officers from Short Service to Permanent Status. These transfers will be made by the mutual consent of the officer and the Service.

TYPES OF OFFICERS

The Navy of today is a complicated organization demanding the most modern administrative and scientific skills. It is not possible for one officer to be competent in all aspects of naval activity. Therefore, it is necessary that officers become specialists. The variety of specialist opportunity for officers is shown below.

Executive Officer

The executive officer is trained for command. He is trained in the combined qualities of combat leadership and seamanship. He may further specialize in: naval aviation, gunnery, communications, torpedo anti-submarine, physical and recreational training, navigation, direction, clearance diving or minesweeping. He is trained for the command of fighting ships.

Engineer Officer

The engineer officer has, as his first responsibility, the operation and maintenance of the propulsion and auxiliary machinery of the Navy's ships. He is an expert in steam, diesel and gas turbine engines, hydraulic and refrigerating equipment. He may also specialize as an air engineer working on the maintenance and design of naval aircraft.

Electrical Officer

The electrical officer is a graduate electrical engineer. He is responsible for the operation and maintenance of all electrical and electronic equipment. He may be employed in research and design projects of electrical and electronic equipment.

Chaplains

The chaplain is concerned with the spiritual welfare of the Navy's officers and men.

Instructor Officer

The instructor officer is the education expert of the Navy and conducts the programme of academic education necessary for advancement in the fleet.

Medical Officer

The medical officer provides for the medical care of the Navy and works to maintain a high standard of health throughout the fleet. Members of this branch are also concerned with medical administration, pharmacy and the nursing services.

Supply Officer

The supply officer is responsible for the administration of all public funds, for payment of the officers and men of the fleet, for procurement and disposal of all stores and equipment for ships and shore establishments. He is responsible for procuring food for the officers and men of the Navy. He fills secretarial and administrative posts both afloat and ashore.

Constructor Officer

The constructor officer is the naval architect. He is responsible for ship design, construction and repair.

Ordnance Officer

The ordnance officer is responsible for the design, supply and maintenance of weapons, ammunition and fire control equipment in the fleet.

Special Branch Officer

The special branch contains a variety of other specialists required in the naval service. It includes legal, information, photographic, research and other experts.



CAREER PROGRESS

There is a great variety of opportunity in the Navy. Below is a typical career of an officer entered under the Regular Officer Training Plan. This officer's progress parallels the training, advancement and promotion of officers entered through other plans, who may have embarked upon a naval career at a different age and entered with a different rank. This career progression may be considered indicative of the career planning policy of the Navy at the present time. It is of course, subject to change as circumstances may require.

Subordinate Officer Progress

R.O.T.P. entries are admitted as naval cadets, to Le Collège Militaire Royal de Saint-Jean between their 16th and 20th birthdays, and to the two other Canadian Services Colleges, Royal Roads and Royal Military College between their 16th and 21st birthdays. For this example, a cadet 18 years of age joining Royal Roads in the Executive Branch has been chosen. At Royal Roads he will receive two years academic training plus two summer's full time

naval training with the fleet. On the completion of his second summer, he will be promoted to Midshipman and undergo technical courses of eight months duration. He will then spend 1 year as an acting sub-lieutenant, serving at sea and doing on-the-job preparation for a Seamanship Board. He will then be sent to sea to obtain a Watchkeeping Certificate or he will undergo flying training.

Progress as Sub-Lieutenant, Lieutenant and Lieutenant-Commander

The rapidity of promotion from sub-lieutenant to lieutenant is dependent upon progress while under training as a subordinate officer. A minimum of 4 months and a maximum of 24 months are served as sub-lieutenant. Most officers reach the rank of lieutenant when they are about 23 years old. Further appointments afloat will follow with added responsibilities. Most officers are selected for courses of approximately a year's duration in such branches as torpedo anti-submarine, naval aviation, communications, navigation, gunnery or physical and recreational training. Promotion to lieutenant-commander is automatic on completion of 8 years service as a lieutenant usually at the age of about 31. Senior lieutenants, lieutenant-commanders and commanders, shortly after promotion, may undergo staff courses in Canada, the United Kingdom or the United States to prepare them for junior naval staff appointments.

Progress above the rank of Lieutenant-Commander

Promotion above the rank of lieutenant-commander is by selection. Additional staff training is provided as preparation for the more senior positions and promotion.

SCALE OF PAY

RANK	Monthly Rate of Pay			Subsistence		Marriage Allowance
	Basic	3 Yrs	6 Yrs	Single	Married	
Rear Admiral	\$981			\$165	\$165	\$40
Commodore	827			153	153	40
Captain	615	650	685	139	139	40
Commander	460	495	530	126	126	40
Lieut-Cdr	370	395	420	113	113	40
Lieutenant	290	315	340	94	110	40
Sub-Lieut	230	245		89	110	40
Act. Sub-Lieut	185			65	91	40
Midshipman	117			61	91	40
Cadet	55					

- A special allowance of \$30.00 per month is paid to naval officers in flying duties and certain other specific appointments.
- Subsistence allowance is payable only when rations and quarters are not provided, and is thus not normally applicable to junior officers.
- Marriage allowance is not normally paid to married officers under 23 years of age.

Defence Services Pension Act

Upon entry into the Regular Force of the RCN, officers begin to establish eligibility under the Defence Services Pension Act, requiring them to contribute from their pay (or pay and allowances) an amount not in excess of 6 per

cent as pension dues. For those not initially entered in Permanent Status these deductions take the form of a withheld deferred pay, which on transfer to Permanent Status, is used to render the officer eligible for full naval pension benefits. Officers holding Short Service Appointments will have this deferred pay returned to them together with a gratuity of one month's pay and allowances for each year of service, or termination of appointment.

Clothing Allowance

A sufficient allowance either in articles of kit or in funds for their purchase will be given to each entry into the Regular Force to provide the necessary items of kit required of a naval officer. After this issue an officer is expected to maintain his kit at his own expense.

Medical and Dental Care

All officers in the Regular Force receive free medical and dental care. In certain isolated areas these benefits are extended to the dependents of naval officers.

Annual Leave

All officers of the Regular Force may be given 30 days annual leave with pay.

Tuition Costs, Etc.

Costs of tuition, training and relevant equipment are borne by the Navy for the training of any officer in the Regular Force of the RCN.



REGULAR OFFICER TRAINING PLAN (R.O.T.P.)

General

Successful applicants under the R.O.T.P. are enrolled as Naval Cadets and attend the Canadian Services College or university for which they are selected by the R.O.T.P. Selection Board. The final selection of the R.O.T.P. Cadets for branch training is made after they have successfully completed the first complete year of academic and professional training. Branch selection is based on the requirements of the Navy, the cadets choice of branch and on academic and summer training records.

If the applicant has reached Junior Matriculation standard on the required subjects, he will be considered for entry to Le Collège Militaire Royal de Saint-Jean, where he will be further educated to Senior Matriculation level. The following alternatives are open to applicants who have reached Senior Matriculation standard on the required subjects:

Executive branch cadets will complete the first two years of the Canadian Services College or university curriculum. They will then be promoted to Midshipmen for 8 months and then to acting sub-lieutenant for 12 months, for subordinate officer training.

Engineering Branch cadets may be selected, after two years of the Canadian Services College curriculum, to proceed to sea as midshipmen(E) for one year and then to a two-year course in the Royal Naval Engineering College

in the United Kingdom. They will be promoted to the rank of acting sub-lieutenant(E) after 16 months in the rank of acting sub-lieutenant(E) after 12 months in the tion of the engineering course. They will then receive additional technical training ashore and afloat before joining the fleet as effective officers in the rank of lieutenant(E). This form of training makes an officer eligible for membership in the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, a recognized equivalent of a university degree in applied science. Engineering Branch cadets may also be selected to train as in the paragraph below:

Technical branch cadets (including engineering branch) may attend a four-year course in a Canadian Services College as cadet. On graduation they will be promoted to sub-lieutenant and given an additional year in a Canadian university in order to obtain the degree required by the branch they will eventually join. Following this they will receive approximately one year of sea training and technical training in a naval establishment before proceeding to join the fleet as an effective officer. Alternatively, they may attend a Canadian university to work for the appropriate degree. Upon graduation they will be promoted to acting sub-lieutenant, then carry on with the one year of sea training and technical training as above.

AGE: Applicants for le Collège Militaire Royal de Saint-Jean must have reached their 16th but not their 20th birthday on 1 January of the year of entry. Applicants for Royal Roads, Royal Military College or Canadian Universities must have reached their 16th but not their 21st birthday on 1 January of the year of entry.

EDUCATION: Applicants for Le Collège Militaire Royal de Saint-Jean must have reached Junior Matriculation standard including French. Applicants for the other Canadian Services Colleges or university must have successfully completed Senior Matriculation, preferably including science subjects.

MISCELLANEOUS: The applicant must be a Canadian citizen or a British subject resident in Canada. He must be single and remain so during academic training and must be medically fit for enrolment in the branch of his choice.

NAVAL TRAINING: Cadets in the Canadian Services Colleges or universities will undergo naval training during the summer months.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE: Officers are entered with a permanent status commission and are given the opportunity to be released to reserve status three years after completion of academic training.

VENTURE PLAN

General

Applicants of Junior Matriculation standing in the required subjects entered under the Venture Plan, are selected for the Executive Branch specializing in Naval Aviation or for the Executive Branch. Cadets join HMCS "VENTURE" in Esquimalt, near Victoria, B.C. for a 2 year course combining training ashore and afloat.

In this time they will be given both Naval and academic training. The academic portion of the two-year course will bring cadets to the level of senior matriculation. On graduation, they will be promoted to Midshipmen and sent for flying training or for technical and watchkeeping courses. Approximately 20 months are spent in the combined ranks of midshipmen and acting sub-lieutenant. The time spent as sub-lieutenants will vary from 16 to 32 months, depending on the general progress made by individual officers.

AGE: Applicants must have reached their 16th, but not their 19th birthday on 1 January of the year of entry.

EDUCATION: Applicants must have, or expect to have completed, Junior Matriculation by the close of the appropriate school year. This is the minimum standard required.

MISCELLANEOUS: Applicants must be Canadian citizens or British subjects normally resident in Canada. Candidates must be single and remain so until attaining the rank of sub-lieutenant. They must be medically fit for enrolment in the branch of their choice.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE: Officers under the "Venture" Plan are entered in a 7-year Short Service Appointment. Cadets may apply for release between the 8th and 12th months of the initial training period. The Service retains the right to effect release on academic, medical or disciplinary grounds. Officers may apply for selection for permanent status at any time after two year's service. They may also apply for an extension of Short Service Appointment upon completion of the initial 7-year period.





UNIVERSITY NAVAL TRAINING DIVISION (UNTD) TRAINING PROGRAMME

Officers in the Naval Reserve who have successfully completed two summer periods and three winter period of the UNTD Training Programme, who are under 25 years of age, and are in possession of the university degree required by the branch they may wish to join, may apply for entry into the RCN in permanent status. They will receive such training as is deemed necessary to bring them up to the knowledge required of them in the fleet. Ranks and seniority will be given to them generally co-related with that of university contemporaries of the ROTP.

NAVAL ASSISTED UNIVERSITY STUDENT (NAUS)

This method of entry into the regular force in permanent status is restricted to medical students. A medical student less than 27 years of age, and within 21 months of obtaining a licence to practise medicine in a province in Canada may apply under this plan. Accepted candidates will be enrolled in the rank of acting surgeon sub-lieuten-

ants and will receive the pay and allowances of that rank. Cost of tuition, books and instruments will be met by the Crown. Consideration will be given to married applicants. Further details may be obtained on application to Naval Headquarters.

TRANSFER FROM SHORT SERVICE APPOINTMENT TO PERMANENT STATUS

Officers holding Short Service Appointments under other than the plans explained herein may apply for permanent status based on service and qualifications. Details of the conditions of such applications are laid down in Naval Orders.

PROMOTION FROM THE LOWER DECK

Men in the lower deck of the Royal Canadian Navy may become officers in the regular force by qualifying under these plans:

Regular Officer Training Plan

“Venture” Plan

Upper Yardman Plan

Branch Officer Plan.

Details of the conditions of such applications are laid down in Naval Orders.

TRANSFER FROM CADETS RCN(R) IN CANADIAN SERVICES COLLEGES

A cadet of the Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve) attending a Canadian Services College may apply for permanent status at any time under the conditions of the ROTP.





